General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/55/593)*]

55/64. Strengthening of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including drug-related crimes such as money-laundering, illicit arms trade and terrorist crimes, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice,

Recognizing also the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention between the immediate priority of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and the protocols thereto and other priorities identified by the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

[1] Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 (annex I).

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which was adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[2] and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, in which Member States renewed their commitment to combat organized crime in all its forms and manifestations and to promote crime prevention in all its areas,

Welcoming the successful completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, established by its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, and the progress achieved in the elaboration of the three supplementary protocols, namely the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[3] the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[4]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/131 of 17 December 1999;[5]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of organized crime;

4. *Notes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the three global programmes addressing, respectively, trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General further to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

5. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, reflecting an increased awareness among Member States of

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[2] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[3] Resolution 55/25, annex III.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] A/55/119.

the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

7. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

8. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

9. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enhance the synergies between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention, in conformity with the reform proposals of the Secretary-General;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to assist the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development;

14. *Invites* States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide technical assistance to requesting States for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and, in particular, to implement programmes designed to combat and prevent the trafficking in human beings, the smuggling of migrants and corruption, and to study and bring about action to combat and prevent transnational organized crime;

15. *Encourages* States to begin making adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and the protocols thereto,[3,4] which will be open for signature in Palermo, Italy, on 12 December 2000, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the Centre during the biennium 2002-2003 so as to

enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the protocols thereto;

17. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

81st plenary meeting
4 December 2000